

Saipan Tribune

CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER

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POLL RESULTS

Should the Education Tax Credit, which allows businesses to donate funds to schools of their choice, be repealed?*



YES-53

NO-467

This week's poll: Should the CNMI Legislature be made into a part-time legislature, with lawmakers getting paid only when they attend sessions and committee meetings? Go to www.saipantribune.com to vote.

*From Oct. 26 to Nov. 1, 2004.

INSIDE



Humanities Awardees

The Council of the Humanities recognized several individuals Friday night with prestigious awards, commending them for efforts that benefit the local community in the field of Humanities during a ceremony at the Dai-Ichi Hotel Saipan Beach's Claret Room.

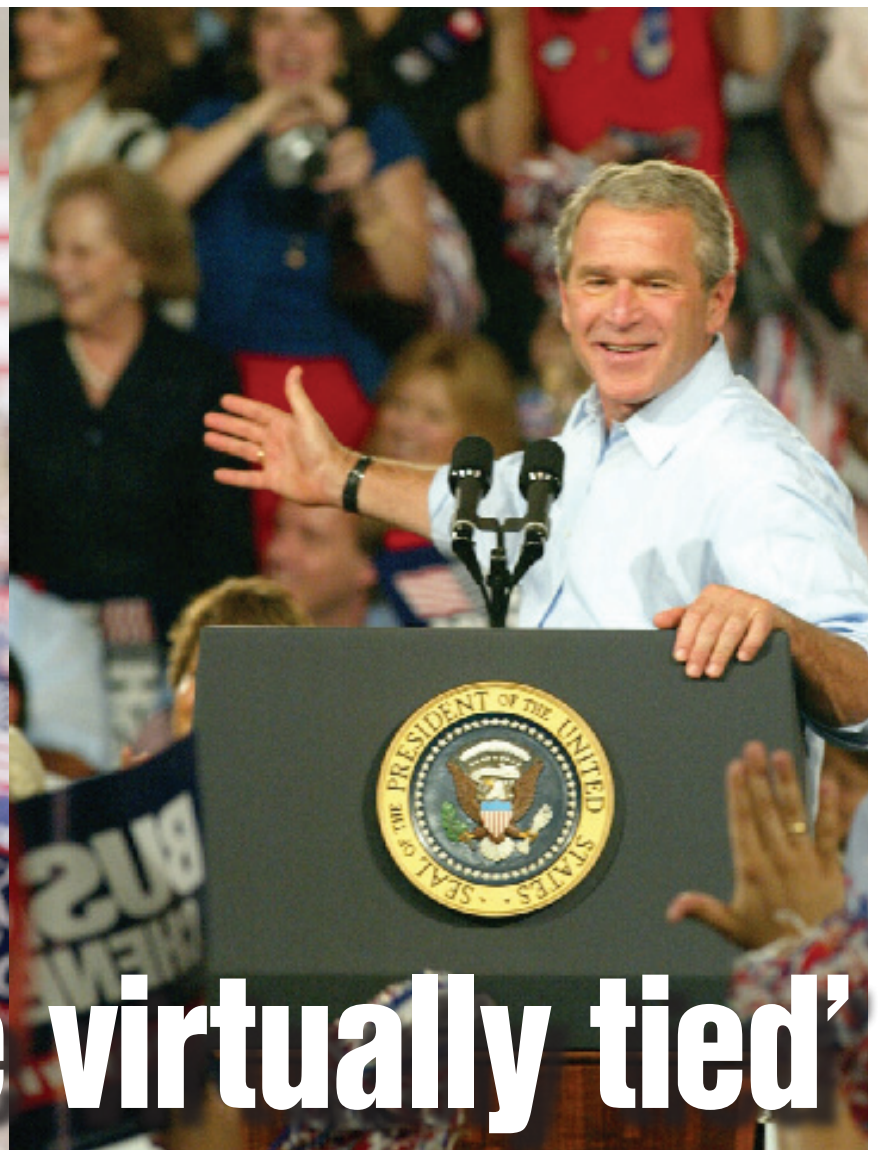
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Closing Hours

In the closing hours of their bitter campaign, President Bush and challenger Sen. John Kerry charged through the critical battlegrounds of Florida and Ohio on Sunday, going from hushed church services to raucous campaign rallies with promises to keep America safe.

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'Electoral race virtually tied'

By RON FOURNIER
AP POLITICAL WRITER



WASHINGTON (AP)—President Bush and Sen. John Kerry are virtually tied in the Electoral College count, fighting over eight to 10 states so close and unpredictable that anything is possible Tuesday night.

After months campaigning and a half-billion dollars spent on attack ads,

Bush and Kerry are still at the whim of unexpected events such as Osama bin Laden's sudden emergence on Friday, a videotape appearance that sent both candidates scrambling to pledge victory in the fight against terrorism.

"Under normal circumstances, undecided voters break against the incumbent this late in an election. However, these are not normal circumstances. This is a time of war," said Michigan pollster Steve Mitchell.

"The question then becomes, will this be different than most years? Will swing

voters decide they don't want to change horses in midstream?" he said.

The answer comes in two days—or more, if there is a repeat of the 2000 recount—for a Republican incumbent and his Democratic challenger who are marshaling two vastly different and unproven get-out-the-vote operations in the battleground states, principally Florida and in the Midwest.



WASHINGTON (AP)—Voter turnout is likely to be higher than in recent presidential elections - especially

among young voters - in a very close race, weekend polls suggest. Those polls suggest the race is very close nationally with some polls showing President Bush and Democratic Sen. John Kerry even and another showing Bush slightly ahead.

Bush has a slight edge at 48 percent and Kerry at 45 percent in a Pew Research Center poll, while several national polls released this weekend showed the race even. New polls show Bush and Kerry knotted in key states

See **ELECTORAL** on Page 12

Permits choke off investors

The planned dry dock project, which drew interest from at least 11 potential investors, ended up receiving only one formal proposal, as businessmen got discouraged by the lengthy permitting process involved in the project.

Saipan seaport manager Antonio Cabrera said the Commonwealth Ports Authority got only one formal propos-

al, as the submission period concluded last Friday.

"We got a lot of inquiries. But the cost of dredging and improving the dock facility, as well as the many permits required by different regulatory agencies, apparently swayed the investors from pursuing that proposal. As you know, any project located on coastal waters

involves many requirements and regulations," Cabrera said.

CPA, in the scope of work it prepared for the dry dock project, said the proposer would be responsible for securing required federal and local permits since the project will involve land with the shoreline areas and the Tanapag lagoon.

See **PERMITS** on Page 12

House rejects Senate version of budget

By LIBERTY DONES
REPORTER

The House of Representatives unanimously voted to reject yesterday the Senate-amended budget bill of \$218 million for 2005, prompting House Speaker Benigno Fitial to call for a conference committee to resolve their differences.

The House earlier approved a \$213 million funding level for fiscal year 2005.

Fitial appointed the following lawmakers to the conference committee: Vice Speaker Timothy Villagomez, House Ways and Means committee chair Norman S. Palacios, Education Committee chair Justo S. Quitugua, Health and Welfare Committee chair Crispin Ogo,

and two minority bloc members: Jesus Attao and Arnold I. Palacios.

Senate President Joaquin Adriano was reached but he refused to respond to calls.

The Senate earlier approved a \$217.7 million budget in consideration of \$5.1 million in additional resources identified by the Babauta administration.

See **HOUSE** on Page 12

Joint probe on CHC dialysis set

By LIBERTY DONES
REPORTER

The Senate and the House of Representatives will hold a joint investigation on the funding mess involved in the Commonwealth Health Center's hemodialysis project.

House leadership spokesman Charles Reyes Jr. said yesterday that both chambers would pursue the issue together.

At the same time, he said that House Speaker Benigno R. Fitial has

See **JOINT** on Page 12

Local

2 alien workers facing deportation

By AGNES E. DONATO
REPORTER

Two nonresident workers are facing possible deportation for failing to leave the CNMI months after their transfer deadline expired.

In an Oct. 29 order, hearing officer Cinta Kaipat permanently barred Shi Gang Jun from gaining employment in the Commonwealth and

referred the worker to the Division of Immigration for deportation proceedings.

Another worker, Liu Hai Hua was given 20 days to leave the CNMI. He will also be referred to Immigration if he fails to depart within the 20-day period.

Mirage Saipan Co. Ltd. filed permit applications to hire both workers on April 2, 2004. The Division of Labor denied the applications after it found

out that each worker was supposed to have left the CNMI months ago.

A review of Shi Gang Jun’s employment history showed that he filed a labor case against his former employer on Aug. 5, 2003 alleging that he was unlawfully terminated. The parties settled the case and signed a settlement agreement approved on Aug. 26.

As part of the settlement, Shi

Gang Jun was allowed to seek a transfer employer within 45 days. In return, he agreed to depart the CNMI voluntarily if he does not find a suitable transfer employer before the Oct. 14, 2003 deadline.

Fourteen days before the transfer deadline, Shi Gang Jun filed a second labor complaint regarding the same employer’s food, drinking water, working environment, and lodging situation.

The second complaint was dismissed on the ground that he was no longer an employee of the company; therefore, he was not in the position to complain about living and working conditions at his former place of employment.

Because no employment contract was submitted for him as of the Oct. 14 deadline, Shi Gang Jun “lost his work and immigration status to remain in the Commonwealth,” Kaipat said.

However, Shi Gang Jun apparently ignored the settlement order in which he agreed to leave if he failed to find a new employer by Oct. 14. He also ignored the order that dismissed his second labor case and ordered him to depart the Commonwealth.

During a hearing on Oct. 27, 2004, it was found that Shi Gang Jun was already working for Mirage without even a “conditional grant of transfer.”

“[Shi Gang Jun] should be permanently barred from entering the Commonwealth for employment purposes and should be referred immediately to the Immigration Division of the Attorney General’s Office

to commence deportation proceedings,” Kaipat said.

She also imposed a \$200 fine against Mirage for allowing Shi Gang Jun to work without a “conditional grant of transfer.” “Mirage Saipan Co. Ltd. is warned to follow CNMI Labor laws in the future or more severe actions may be brought against the company,” she added.

Worker Liu Hai Hua committed basically the same violation as Shi Gang Jun did.

On Oct. 1, 2003, hearing officer Jerry Cody approved a settlement agreement between Liu Hai Hua and Mirage. As part of the settlement, Liu Hai Hua was granted 45 days to find a suitable transfer employer. He also agreed to depart the CNMI voluntarily if he failed to meet the deadline.

On April 2, 2004, over four months after the transfer deadline expired, Mirage filed an application to re-hire Liu Hai Hua.

“Liu Hai Hua should be ordered to depart the CNMI and should be barred from returning to work in the Commonwealth for two years from the date of his departure,” Kaipat said.

Bill introduced to protect project contractors, owners

By LIBERTY DONES
REPORTERS

To avoid a repeat of the hemodialysis construction fiasco, Vice Speaker Timothy Villagomez introduced yesterday a bill that aims to hold accountable both contractors and project owners.

Villagomez introduced House Bill 14-260 or Works Improvement Act of 2004, which aims to set up a new mechanics lien.

Right now, the lawmaker said the mechanics’ lien provision “is inadequate to protect the interests of contractors and merchants” in the Commonwealth.

Further, he said that existing rules do not provide for safeguards against public entities that fail to comply with the terms of construction contracts.

As a result, he said, qualified contractors and suppliers continue to be discouraged from doing business in the CNMI and participating in the development of projects.

This condition, he said, results in increased cost of construction in the CNMI “because competition is limited.”

“The purpose of this legislation is to strengthen the present mechanics’ lien and to provide

for stop notice for private and public works and payment for bond for private and public works,” said Villagomez.

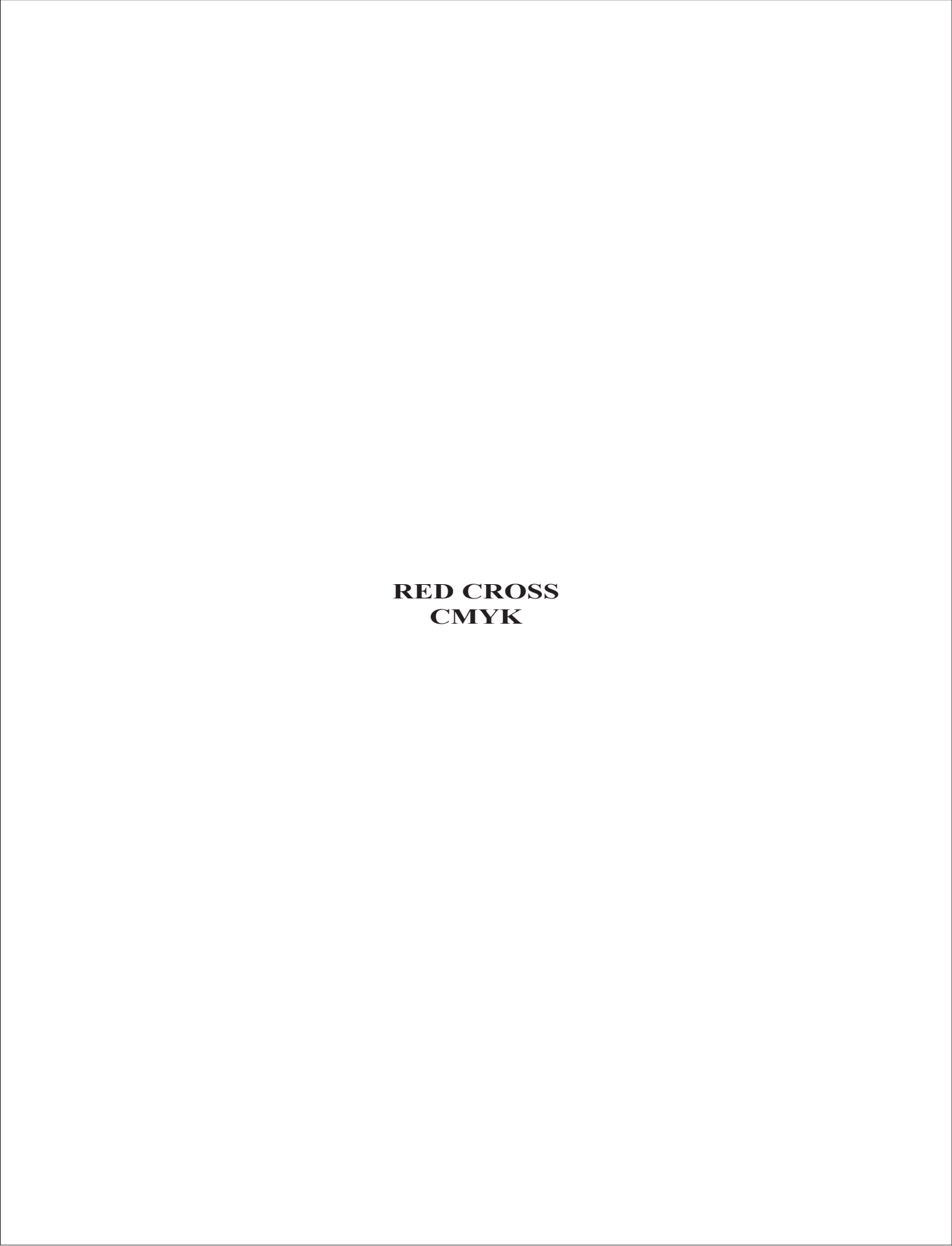
House leadership spokesman Charles Reyes Jr. said the bill comes in the wake of the construction mess surrounding the Commonwealth Health Center’s hemodialysis center project.

“We don’t want to see any repeat of that fiasco. The vice speaker, as you know, introduced a bill reprogramming funds for the hemodialysis project. He was placed in a difficult position but he went ahead to use that fund to help dialysis patients,” said Reyes.

As proposed by Villagomez, the House approved a \$5.8 million reprogramming for the hemodialysis project. The funds would be taken from Kagman wastewater project, which has yet to start in 2006. The reprogramming bill is now up for Senate action.

The hemodialysis project was originally allotted over \$11 million in Covenant 702 funds.

Its construction contract only amounted to \$5.6 million but due to several change orders, the budget was depleted.



The Saipan Tribune accepts contributed photos of holidays, weddings, baptisms, and other community and family events for free publication. Material submitted should be original and not copyrighted, in digital or print format. Must include a caption containing complete details for description of the event, location of the persons in the picture, the date, and the place, the name of the contributor, and a contact number. The Saipan Tribune reserves the right to edit the caption, the date of publication and the date of the picture. Contributors are e-mail their submissions to editor@saipantribune.com. To check if contributions are received, call 223-6287, 223-3446, or 223-4743.

CARS

PIC HALLOWEEN

COMMUNITY

Briefs

BOE November meeting cancelled

The 9th NMI State Board of Education special meeting slated for Wednesday, Nov. 3, 2004, at 9am, has been cancelled until further notice. The BOE extends its apologies for any inconvenience this may cause.

Families with disabilities officers' meeting

The CNMI Association of Families with Disabilities meeting will be held on Nov. 4, 2004, 10am, at Skyway Restaurant, Airport Road. Should you have any questions call Lisa A. Aldan at 483-0395 or Vicky Tudela at 288-7676 for further information. All parents and community members are welcomed to attend this meeting.

Marianas High School open house tomorrow

To all parents and legal guardians of Marianas High School students, the MHS will be hosting an Open House tomorrow, Nov. 3, 2004 from 4pm to 7pm. During the open house, report cards will be distributed for 1st quarter grades. We invite all parents/legal guardians to visit your student's classrooms, meet the teachers, and pick up your student's report card.

ADA trainings today, tomorrow

The Development Disabilities TriAgency wants to inform the public that ADA Title I and the Section 508 of the Rehab. Act trainings initially scheduled for July will take place today and tomorrow, Nov. 2-3, at the Saipan World Resort (formally the Saipan Diamond Hotel). For more information or free registration, call CNMI Council on Developmental Disabilities at 664-7000.

Public library closed today

The Joeten-Kiyu Public Library will be closed today Nov. 2, for technical repairs and upgrades. Library materials due on these dates may be renewed or returned on Thursday, Nov. 4.

MHS MY WAVEs solicit help from alumni

The Marianas High School's MY WAVE club is soliciting help from all MHS alumni. "We are requesting your help in donating novels, fiction books and magazines," the group said in a statement. Those who would like to make a donation or want more information may contact club adviser Tim Faska at 287-7550 or mhsmywave_2005@hotmail.com

Senate panels to hold hearing on Andrew nomination tomorrow

The Senate Committee on Executive Appointments and Government Investigation of Sen. Paterno Hocog and the Senate Committee on Resources, Economic Development and Programs of Sen. Luis P. Crisostimo will hold a joint committee public hearing on the Governor's nominee for secretary of Commerce, Andrew S. Salas.

"This is to inform all the members of our Committee(s) on EAGI and RED&P that we will be holding a public hearing on Wednesday, Nov. 3, 2004, at 10:30am at the Senate Chamber on Mr. Andrew S. Salas," the committees said in a statement.

Marriage Encounter weekend set

The Worldwide Marriage Encounter Organization has announced the upcoming ME Weekend scheduled from Nov. 19 though 21 for married couples who want to improve communication and strengthen their marriage.

The weekend is open to all married couples regardless of age. The special weekend will be held at the Hotel Riviera Saipan in Fina Sis. The registration fee is only \$50 per couple and includes room for the weekend, all meals and drinks.

The organization explained that the weekend is intended to focus "on your relationship between you and your spouse and on your relationship with God.

For registration or more information, contact Ben & Lovey Salas at 235-2250; Russ & Kanae Quinn at 256-1058 or Sean & Ericka Frink at 322-9990.

ChaCha PTSA meeting set

ChaCha Oceanview Junior High School will be having its monthly PTSA meeting on Nov. 3, 2004, Wednesday, at the school's cafeteria beginning at 6pm. All are encouraged to attend this very important meeting.

Should you have any questions, call the school at 664-4100, 4103, 4105 and/or 4106.

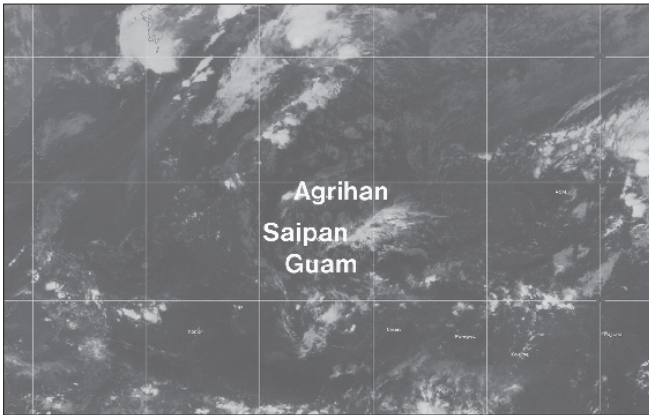
Wanted: designated drivers

The Department of Public Safety Traffic Section will again implement its Designated Driver program this December to promote road safety during the holiday season.

The program provides transportation for intoxicated individuals. Instead of driving while intoxicated, individuals may contact the Traffic Section and a driver will be provided for transportation home.

Those interested in taking part in the program are encouraged to contact Rose Ada-Hocog or Sgt. Sylvan Rangamar at 664-9084/5/6.

WEATHER FORECAST



PICTURE TIME: 1:00 PM., NOVEMBER 1, 2004
Western North Pacific between Equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

An upper-level low over Wake combined with a weak surface trough is producing scattered showers and a few thunderstorms north of Kwajalein between 12n and 15n from 165e to 171e. The upper-level low is also interacting with trade-wind convergence north of wake island...producing scattered showers between 20n and 25n from 163e to 180. Trade-wind convergence is producing scattered showers east of the Northern Mariana Islands between 16n and 21n from 142e to 147e... and south of Majuro between the Equator and 4n from 168e to 180. A weak near-equatorial trough extends from 2n130e to a weak circulation center near 3n141e to eq155e. Scattered showers are occurring over the eastern end of the trough between the equator and 3n from 149e to 152e.



SAIPAN AND TINIAN

Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
Winds: East at 10 mph.
Temperature: Highs around 88.
Lows around 76.



GUAM AND ROTA

Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
Winds: East at 10 mph.
Temperature: Highs around 88.
Lows around 76.



PALAU

Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
Winds: Northeast at 5-10 kt.
Highs 89 Lows 77



POHNPEI

Partly cloudy.
Winds: South at 5 kt. Highs 90
Lows 70



YAP AND ULITHI

Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
Winds: Northeast at 10 kt.
Highs 87 Lows 79



KOSRAE

Mostly cloudy with isolated showers.
Winds: Northeast at 10 kt.
Highs 82 Lows 77



CHUUK

Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
Winds: Southeast at 5 kt.
Highs 82 Lows 80



MAJURO

Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
Winds: Northeast at 10-15 kt.
Highs 88 Lows 82

CITY	FORECAST	HIGH	LOW
Auckland	Partly Cloudy	60F (16C)	48F (9C)
Beijing	Rain	55F (13C)	34F (1C)
Hong Kong	Sunny	79F (26C)	70F (21C)
Honolulu	Showers	86F (30C)	74F (23C)
London, England	Partly Cloudy	57F (14C)	46F (8C)
Los Angeles	Sunny	74F (23C)	51F (11C)
Manila	Partly Cloudy	86F (30C)	70F (21C)
Melbourne	Sunny	76F (24C)	46F (13C)
Miami	Sunny	84F (29C)	70F (21C)
New York City	Sunny	60F (16C)	45F (7C)
Osaka	Partly Cloudy	59F (15C)	46F (8C)
Paris	Cloudy	56F (13C)	38F (3C)
Pusan	Sunny	68F (20C)	52F (11C)
Rome	Partly Cloudy	68F (20C)	54F (12C)
Salem	Showers	56F (13C)	44F (7C)
San Francisco	Sunny	65F (18C)	50F (10C)
Seoul	Sunny	59F (15C)	38F (3C)
Tokyo, Japan	Partly Cloudy	57F (14C)	44F (7C)
Washington, DC	Sunny	58F (14C)	49F (9C)

SGMA named as OVR Employer of the Year

Chamber's Wednesday meeting to take up garment industry's future

The Saipan Chamber of Commerce will be addressing the future of the garment industry in the CNMI and the future of the chamber with the election of its 2005 board officers and directors during a general membership meeting tomorrow, Nov. 3.

The meeting will be held at the SandCastle Room of the Hyatt Regency Saipan. To accommodate both activities, the lunch buffet at the Hyatt Hotel Sandcastle Room will open at 11am. Cost of buffet is \$15. The meeting will start promptly at 11:30am; elections will begin at 11:45am, with main speakers to begin at noon.

Speakers will describe the current situation and what will happen after next year's global changes in manufacturing, export, and entry into the United States. Speakers will address how the changes will affect orders from Asian buying offices, the factories themselves, and your businesses that depend on this industry and its employees.

As an integral part of the CNMI economy, the Saipan garment industry provides for over 22,000 jobs inside and outside factory walls. This industry accounts for a third of government budget dollars and supports many business and community entities because of its presence in Saipan.

Over the past decades, global competition has increased dramatically for local apparel factories. Many agree that the World Trade Organization elimination of quota restrictions on foreign countries exporting into the United States will present the toughest test for local factory viability in the Commonwealth. Apparel executives and government officials already expect changes to occur.

"How will this affect your business? How will this affect your job? How will this affect the CNMI overall? How will manufacturers and government address and adjust to these major global changes? How much longer will the garment factories stay in Saipan?" are some of the questions that will be answered during the presentation.

Addressing the members and guests will be the Saipan Garment Manufacturers Association chair James C. Lin, Polo Ralph Lauren's Hong Kong Sourcing Office's Doug Rogers, and others. The Saipan Chamber of Commerce is also inviting CNMI Gov. Juan N. Babauta, House Speaker Benigno R. Fitial, Senate President Joaquin G. Adriano, and House and Senate members to attend.

AMC thanks Babauta for prompt typhoon aid

The Third CNMI Association of Municipal Councils, Inc., has adopted a resolution thanking Gov. Juan N. Babauta for what it termed as his "exceptional performance and profound working relationship" with President Bush that led to the declaration of the CNMI as disaster area in the wake of several typhoons that hit the CNMI in the last few months.

The resolution said that because of Babauta's "exceptional performance and profound rapport" with Bush, the CNMI was declared a disaster area in record time, mobilizing federal assistance to arrive in the CNMI.

Typhoon Tingting followed by Supertyphoon Chaba caused damage to private and government facilities amounting to over \$18 million. The devastating effects of Chaba to residential dwellings forced residents to remain in public schools designated as typhoon shelters, canceling PSS classroom instructions.

"The Association acknowledges and commends Governor Juan N. Babauta for developing and maintaining the best working relationship with President George W. Bush, which is paramount to the continued growth and advancement of the CNMI and its people," part of the resolution reads.

The resolution was certified by association president Gregorio V. Deleon Guerrero and vice president Jude U. Hofschneider and was attested by secretary Mametto M. Ayuyu.

By SHAN SEMAN
REPORTER

The Office of the Governor, State Rehabilitation Council, and the Office of Vocational Rehabilitation have chosen the Saipan Garment Manufacturers Association as its Employer of the Year during an award ceremony Friday at the Pacific Islands Club Charley's Cabaret, citing its efforts in promoting the employment of qualified individuals with disabilities.

The ceremony capped the observance of October as Disability Employment Awareness Month.

"Thank you very much for this award," said SGMA executive director Richard A. Pierce, who was on hand to receive the award. "We will proudly display it in our offices."

Pierce recognized United International Corp., Sam Marianas Inc., American Pacific Textile and Hansae (Saipan) Inc. as

SGMA firms hiring individuals with disabilities.

He credited the firms "for believing in the abilities of all people, for realizing that all individuals have the potential to contribute to the economic development of the Northern Marianas, and for promoting the advancement of an inclusive island community."

OVR Director Felicitas "Tee" P. Abraham presented Pierce with the plaque and credited SGMA for promoting the employment of qualified individuals with disabilities. He also presented SGMA with an Award of Outstanding Merit signed by Gov. Juan N. Babauta and State Rehabilitation Council chair William Jones.

Other employers present at the ceremony who were recognized for working with OVR to place qualified persons with

disabilities in jobs were Bien Seiko Inc., Department of Public Works, Mount Carmel School, CNMI Center for Independent Living, Karidat Social Service, Sister Remedios Early Childhood Development, Department of Public Health, and ChaCha Ocean View Junior High School.

National Disability Employment Awareness Month was expanded from a one-week awareness period to a monthlong period in 1988 by the U.S. Congress. Prior to the change, the first week of October was annually proclaimed as National Employ and Physically Handicapped Week, beginning in 1945. The word "physically" was removed in 1962 to acknowledge the employment needs and contributions of individuals with all types of disabilities.



Pierce

CTC

CHAMBER

CUC HEARING

NI PBLIC NOTICE

MES PBLIC NOTICE

Six honored for their work in the humanities

By SHAN SEMAN
REPORTER

The Council of the Humanities recognized several individuals Friday night with prestigious awards, commending them for efforts that benefit the local community in the field of Humanities during a ceremony at the Dai-Ichi Hotel Saipan Beach's Claret Room.

Presented with the 2004 Governor's Humanities Awards were Dr. Dirk HR Spennemann, Pacific STAR Center for Young Writers, Noel B. Quitugua, Lino Olopai, Howard Willens, and Deanne Siemer.

Spennemann, an associate professor of Cultural Resources Management at Charles Sturt University in Australia and an expert on the German colonial period in Micronesia, received the nod in the research and publication category, being recognized for several publications resulting from extensive research over the past five years. He also completed a project in which he collected, organized and annotated thousands of pages of German language materials relating to the NMI, which is available for use by scholars and others interested in the German period.

Among the publications are *Aurora Australis: The German Period in the Northern Mariana Island 1899-1914*, known as the first comprehensive study of the German colonial period in the NMI; *The German Annexation of the Caroline, Palau, and Mariana Islands*; and *German Sources on the Marianas*.



SHAN SEMAN

Recipients of this year's Governor's Humanities awards pose for a photo shortly after the presentation ceremony Friday night at the Dai-Ichi Hotel Saipan Beach Claret Room. Recipients include Pacific STAR Center for Young Writers, Noel Quitugua, and Lino Olopai. Not in photo are Dr. Dirk Spennemann, Howard Willens, and Deanne Siemer.

Pacific STAR Center for Young Authors was commended for the completion of a project featuring oral accounts of World War II. A book entitled "We Drank Our Tears" was published as a result of the project, which had students interview and document the experiences by elderly relatives during the WWII. The effort in documenting the accounts for future generations to learn and understand earned them the Preserve CNMI History Award.

The book has been distributed to

libraries and repositories in the Commonwealth and is also available for student use.

"It represents a valuable addition to local history told from an indigenous perspective," the Council said.

For his part, Quitugua, currently the exhibit curator at the Northern Mariana Islands Museum of History and Culture, was recognized as a knowledgeable individual in the field of Chamorro history and culture, and thus, was the recipient of the Human-

ities Teacher Award. His studies have enabled him to replicate tools and other materials used by Chamorros in the ancient times, and is well versed on local family histories as well.

Quitugua was also commended for sharing his knowledge with others through presentations at schools.

Olopai was commended with the Preserving Traditional Cultural Practices Award after being a strong advocate of reviving and using traditional cultural practices to effectively

deal with the challenges of the modern world.

He documented his early life experience on Saipan, as well as his search for cultural identity, involvement in political status of the Commonwealth, and effort in seeking balance with cultural traditions and the modern way of life.

His manuscript, entitled *The Rope of Tradition*, will be published by the Council later this year.

Willens and Siemer received the Lifetime Achievement in the Humanities Award due to their "significant contributions to the humanities in the Commonwealth over the past three decades."

Willens represented the Marianas Political Status Commission in negotiations with the U.S. regarding political status in 1972. He and Siemer also served as counsel to the First and Third Constitutional Conventions.

The two engaged in extensive research in the 1980s that resulted in the publication of *National Security and Self-Determination: United States Policy in Micronesia (1961-1972)*, and *An Honorable Accord: The Covenant between the Northern Mariana Islands and the United States*.

Both have been involved in various Humanities projects relating to the NMI, and are currently in the final stages of making available in electronic format thousands of pages of edited transcripts of oral interviews regarding the status negotiations. About 55,000 pages will be made available.

PSS016

PSS020

Island Snapshots

PSS 005

PSS 006

US DISTRICT COURT

Opinion

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EDITORIAL

Honest on Saudi Arabia

Make our ports safer

EDITORIAL POLICY

The *Saipan Tribune* welcomes comments on any article, column, editorial, or topic that may be of interest to the public. Letters to the editor must include the name, address, and contact number of the contributor. Letters that are critical in nature should focus on issues, not personalities. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, Century Insurance Building, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

Letter to the Editor

'Man charged with sexual assault of minor may review girl's DYS file'

The Superior Court has allowed a man charged with sexually assaulting a minor to look into the victim's records with the Division of Youth Services for his defense.

The court, however, declined MD. Aktar Hossain's request to review the victim's records with the Public Schools System, giving more weight to the girl's privacy interest.

Presiding Judge Robert C. Naraja said allowing an in-camera review of the victim's DYS file would ensure that the defendant "is not denied a full and fair opportunity to prepare his defense."

"While this may be a grander generalization than the court is willing to accept unconditionally, the defendant has a legitimate point. The interests

of justice demand that the court consider whether the DYS file contains relevant or exculpatory material for his defense," Naraja said.

Hossain told the court that another man whom he identified as "Minto" might have previously sexually assaulted the victim. He said the experience could have provided the victim with background sexual knowledge normally beyond the scope of a child her age.

The court differentiated the review of the victim's DYS file from a public release of her private information. The court, however, gave the opposite opinion regarding the requested review of the victim's PSS records.

It dismissed Hossain's claim that the lack of changes in the victim's demeanor and school performance after

the previous sexual assault happened would support his defense.

"By the defendant's own logic, the victim's outward show of strength would then be exculpatory to the defendant. Only victims that publicly crumble would be 'rewarded' by harming the defendant's defense; victims who outwardly remain strong would be punished. The court will not accept such logic as a matter of policy," Naraja said.

The judge also said that a change in the victim's behavior would not necessarily mean anything about the defendant. "The court is not satisfied that a review of the victim's PSS file will yield anything of importance, sufficient to outweigh the victim's privacy interest," the judge said. *(John Ravelo)*

9 charges vs man for allegedly raping woman

The Attorney General's Office yesterday filed multiple criminal charges against a man who allegedly barged inside a woman's house, beat her up, and raped her.

CNMI chief prosecutor David Hutton lodged the charges against 38-year-old Pablo Gacayan Mendoza.

Mendoza allegedly burglarized the woman's residence in Kannat Tabla on Oct. 24 and refused to leave when told to do so.

Armed with a knife, Mendoza allegedly assaulted the woman, harmed her and had sex with her without her consent, according to the criminal in-

formation filed at the Superior Court.

Hutton filed nine criminal counts against Mendoza: burglary, trespassing, assault, assault with a dangerous weapon, two counts of assault and battery, disturbing the peace, and sexual assault in the first and second degrees. *(John Ravelo)*

ELECTORAL

From Page 1

like Florida, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Wisconsin, Minnesota and New Hampshire.

More than eight in 10 registered voters in the Pew poll, 84 percent, describe this election as especially important, compared with 67 percent in 2000 and 61 percent in 1996.

Pew pollster Andrew Kohut said the poll suggests turnout could be as high or slightly higher than in 1992, when it was more than 55 percent of those eligible to vote - based on his analysis of voter enthusiasm.

Bush had more intense support from his backers than Kerry, though both get the backing of about nine in 10 in their own parties.

The poll suggested the two candidates are running about even among early voters.

□ □ □

Polls suggest the nation is evenly divided or leaning toward Bush, but the popular vote does not determine who wins the presidency. The White House goes to whoever earns 270 state electoral votes, a majority of the 538 available.

According to an Associated Press analysis, 26 states are solidly behind Bush or lean his way for 222 electoral votes. Kerry has 16 states plus the District of Columbia secured or leaning his direction for 211 electoral votes.

It is down to this: Bush needs to scrape together at least 48 of the remaining 105 electoral votes to keep his job. Kerry needs 59 to move into the White House.

The remaining 105 electoral votes are in the eight most competitive states: Florida, Ohio, Nevada, Pennsylvania, Wisconsin, Iowa, Minnesota and New Mexico.

Two other states fall just outside the toss-up category—Michigan and New Hampshire, both of which tilt slightly toward Kerry. An additional six to 12

states, including the slow-voting Democratic bastion of Hawaii, could come into play if neither Bush nor Kerry wins a clear majority of the popular vote.

It would take a modest burst of momentum, a swing of 3 or 4 percentage points, to produce a lopsided Electoral College victory for either Bush or Kerry.

The president narrowly took three of the toss-up states in 2000, when he lost the popular count to Democrat Al Gore but won the Electoral College with 271 votes. He claimed Ohio and Nevada on Election Day, and sweated out a 36-day recount before a Supreme Court ruling awarded him Florida and the White House.

Gore won Pennsylvania, Minnesota, Wisconsin, Iowa, and New Mexico, the latter three by fewer than 10,000 votes.

Among the toss-ups, the most important states are Ohio, Florida, Pennsylvania, with 68 electoral votes combined. Victory in any two of the three by either man would propel him toward victory.

With a bigger electoral base, Bush could lose two of the three and still make up for it with gains in the Upper Midwest. He's also hedging his bets with an 11th-hour push in Kerry-leaning states such as Michigan and Hawaii.

Each of the toss-up states presents different challenges for the two candidates.

Pennsylvania is Kerry's best state of the eight toss-ups.

"If I were a betting person, I would probably say that Kerry's ability to do well in the Philadelphia and Pittsburgh suburbs will allow him to carry the state," said Jerome Maddox, political science assistant professor at the University of Pennsylvania.

Among the three Upper Midwest states, private polling for both campaigns shows Kerry with a small but steady lead in Minnesota. In Wisconsin, Kerry has had trouble with his political base, primarily blacks. Iowa figures to be the toughest Gore-won

state for Kerry to retain.

Once-reliably Democratic, voters in the small towns and farthest suburbs of the Upper Midwest are leaving their party for the GOP. The three states along the Mississippi River combine for 27 electoral votes, the same as Florida's.

New Mexico, where Gore eked out a 366-vote victory, seems just as close now.

Among the three toss-up states that went GOP in 2000, Nevada may stick with Bush despite his support of a hated nuclear waste dump and the influx of Democrat-leaning Hispanics. But it offers just five electoral votes.

Both campaigns claim a slim lead in Florida, but public polls suggest Bush may have an edge. His brother, Gov. Jeb Bush, enjoys high approval ratings. Democrats argue the immigration of non-Cuban Hispanics will put Kerry over the top, and a surge of early voting adds an element of unpredictability.

Ohio is tough for Bush. The state has lost 232,100 jobs since the president took office, and organized labor and other groups aligned with Kerry have mounted a paid turn-out-the-vote drive to compete with Bush's volunteer-driven effort.

In Ohio and elsewhere, Republicans fret privately over signs that Democratic turnout will be larger than they had expected.

Republican Party chairman Ed Gillespie says not to worry. "The worst place to be on Election Day is between a Republican voter and a voting booth," he said. Even so, the GOP has pledged to place thousands of supporters in selected precincts to be prepared to challenge voters they deem questionable.

In every state, voting blocs are showing signs of unpredictability.

Bush may increase his small share of black and Jewish votes, boosting his chances in Michigan, Florida and others. Young and Hispanic voters, who tend to slip below the radar of pollsters, could give Kerry winning margins in GOP-leaning states such as Colorado and Nevada.

PERMITS

From Page 1

While the ports authority pledged to cooperate and assist in the acquisition of the necessary permits, all the proposers will have to qualify for, secure, and pay for the permits.

"I'm not saying that we should not care about the environment. We just hope that regulatory agencies will assist us in making this project happen," Cabrera said.

The project involves constructing a small ship repair and manufacturing facility at the North Seaplane Ramp in Lower Base.

Currently, Cabrera said, small vessel repair is being done at the dry dock facility within the same area, which is poorly equipped and uses a dry-docking method that is crude and unsafe.

"With the planned dry dock project, we can do small ship repair the way it should be done. We can centralize it and let the industry regulate itself. We can even let watchdog groups come for inspections. This way, we can prevent from happening anything that can destroy our environment," Cabrera said.

He said CPA will evaluate the one submitted proposal, but refused to name or disclose details about the sole proposer, pending review by the CPA board of directors.

According to the request for proposals, CPA is looking at considering a build-operate-and-transfer arrangement, and encourages proposers to offer constructive and innovative proposals regarding the business operation and consideration for use of the area.

The RFP also noted that CPA may grant leases of land for periods of up to 40 years. Thus, all proposals are expected to consider the amount and type of rental to be paid to CPA under any lease. The amount may be a flat rate or percentage lease or a combination of two.

"It must be understood that [CPA] will neither finance this development, nor guarantee financing for any proposer. Thus it is expected that all proposals shall identify and include financing sources and make affirmative statements of their capabilities, qualifications, and intent to complete the project. It is the authority's intent to review, evaluate, and select the best proposal," a portion of the RFP read. *(Agnes E. Donato)*

JOINT

From Page 1

asked the Office of the Public Auditor to look into the matter.

"There's going to be a Senate and House joint committee to investigate [the hemodialysis project]. The speaker also called on the OPA to audit the project to see if there's any infraction," said Reyes.

He said that there is "bipartisan consensus" on the conduct of the investigation.

"The minority lawmakers also want this investigated to make sure that it's not repeated. They also want to make sure that dialysis patients are adequately treated," he said.

The House earlier approved to reprogram \$5.8 million of Kagman wastewater funds to complete the "under-funded" hemodialysis project.

The bill is now up for approval by the Senate.

Senate minority leader Pete P. Reyes said the upper chamber is ready to approve the proposal but this does not prevent them from conducting a probe of the matter.

"We want to pass the bill because this is for a good cause...But we'd

make sure that the players—those responsible for the mess—will be held accountable so we'll go ahead with the investigation," said Reyes.

Reyes also said the Senate would ask the U.S. Inspector General to audit the project.

"This project involves federal funds. It appears that there's a lot of mismanagement, misappropriation, and even malfeasance on the part of participants," he said.

The Babauta administration earlier asked the Legislature to approve the reprogramming of funds for the hemodialysis project, citing that the original appropriation has been depleted with a remaining balance of only \$857,000.

The hemodialysis project was originally given \$11 million from Covenant 702 funds but the funding was depleted due to several changes.

The hemodialysis project was originally awarded to Leo Daly amounting to about \$800,000 but due to "unacceptable work" the government entered into a redesign project with Tanaguchi Ruth for nearly \$900,000.

The government also awarded \$5.6 million to AIC Marianas to construct the facility.

The dialysis facility is expected to be completed by next year.

HOUSE

From Page 1

This excludes a \$1.5 million additional projection submitted by the administration last week from increased annual registration fee of nonresident workers. (The Department of Labor adopted a new schedule of fees, including a \$50 increase in the annual nonresident workers fee, effective July this year.)

"Sufficient collection experience now exists that the Secretary of Finance can make an estimate of the full-year revenue effect," said Gov. Juan N. Babauta in an Oct. 20 letter to the Legislature. "I hope this information will aid the Legislature in completing the FY05 budget."

At the same time, he called on lawmakers to reconsider his administration's Integrated Fiscal Plan, which aims to generate some \$13 million. Part of the plan is the imposition of \$100 in-

crease in nonresident workers' fee.

The House, in passing a \$212.7 million budget, deleted revenues attributable to IFP, including the increased fees for foreign workers.

Meantime, the Senate-approved budget bill restored the cuts made on the Marianas Visitors Authority's budget, raising its funding level from \$4 million to \$5.9 million and government utilities budget from \$4 million to \$5 million.

The Senate also approved \$10.9 million for Public Safety, \$38.3 million for Public Health, and \$37.2 million for the Public School System.

The House approved \$38.4 million for Public Health, \$14.6 million for Public Safety, \$2 million for Department of Corrections, and \$38.5 for PSS.

The governor said that unless the PSS funding is restored to \$41,859,928, he would have to consider vetoing any budget bill reaching his desk.

Business

Asia

World

tribune graduation ad

Overdrive

SHOP TALK Good paint, bad paint

By GREG ZYLA

2004 KING FEATURES SYND., INC.

Q: I see a lot of cars on the highway with bad paint. How long should paint last on a new car?—Carol H., e-mail from Wisconsin

A: According to the major manufacturers, paint should look like new for five to seven years if taken care of properly. Most, but not all, of the bad paint you see is due to poor care or none at all.

Paint oxidation and the ultraviolet radiation from the sun aren't as problematic as they were 10 years ago. During the past five years, new paint technology has provided even more resistance to ultraviolet fading, allowing new-car clearcoat paints to hold up perhaps 10 years and even longer if garaged and kept clean.

By the way, when selecting a wax for these new car finishes, you might want to look for a wax that contains carnauba, which will help protect the baked-on clearcoat finishes a little better.

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Q: Greg, I read your article on tire rotation. I have a full-size spare and want to include it when I have my tires rotated so I don't have to replace all my tires so soon. How do I do this?—J.C., via e-mail

A: The proper procedure is to use the appropriate rotation pattern for four-tire rotation, but insert the spare in the right rear position. Place the tire that would have gone to the right rear in the trunk as the new spare. Never include a temporary spare tire in the rotation. Note: Directional tread patterns must be rotated front-to-rear only, so the direction of revolution does not change.

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Q: Greg, I was just was wondering if you knew how many 1968 Chevelle Malibus and Super Sports Convertibles were produced in 1968?—Carl from Ohio

A: Glad to help, Carl. In 1968, 266,300 Chevelle Malibus were produced in all fashions, and another 45,500 Chevelle wagons were produced. As for the SS 396 models, which are not included in the above figures, 60,499 hardtop coupes were built, but only 2,286 SS 396 convertibles.

Therefore, when you add all this up, out of a total of 329,085 Malibu and Super Sports built, less than 1 percent were convertibles. Also, more than 54,000 additional Chevelle 300 models were built in 1968, making that SS convertible even more rare. In 1966, the SS convertible numbered 2,984, and in 1967, it was 3,033. Thus, the 1968 SS Convertible is the rarest of the 1966-68 Chevilles.

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Q: Greg, how accurate are the antique and collector car price guides?—Bob from Florida

A: I've always felt they were somewhat high in their estimates, but that's just my opinion. Periodicals that list cars for sale—such as Hemmings Motor News and Auto Roundup Magazine—are usually closer to actual prices being paid for cars that are NOT Barrett Jackson Auction material. And, in reality, most collector cars are not frame-off, professional restorations.

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Q: Greg, I have test driven the Toyota Matrix XR FWD and Subaru Impreza Outback Sport AWD. But I'm torn as to which to pick for my new car. I haven't driven the AWD Matrix yet. I live in a city with traffic lights and wonder if all-wheel drive is good for me. I am a short person as well. I know the gas mileage is not as good on AWD as it is on front-wheel drive.

Do you think I should look for a car with good fuel economy since gas prices are up and may go up (more), or settle for safety and more control in rain/snow with all-wheel drive? Which car would be better for saving in the long run? — Gail, via e-mail

A: Gail, first I'd test drive the AWD Matrix, as it's also a fine vehicle. Subaru offers AWD as standard equipment in all its vehicles, so we must make a fair comparison here.

From the tone of your letter you sound like you have to drive in snowy weather, so I think the AWD version of the Matrix or the Subaru would be in order. You'll be very happy when it snows, as both vehicles will take you wherever you want to go.

As for the fuel mileage, the decrease you mention isn't that much, and AWD is really worth the price of few dollars more per fill-up. Heck, you'll be in AWD security and safety.

As for recommending which car to buy, that's easy. Follow your heart. Only you know which one you like better. Both are quality vehicles and have rated very high in my test-drive articles. (By the way, the Pontiac Vibe is produced by Toyota and is a mechanical clone sans the exterior skin, so you might want to drive a Vibe AWD for a different look.)

Thanks for the letter, and please let us know what you buy.

Write to Greg Zyla in care of King Features Weekly Service, P.O. Box 536475, Orlando, FL 32853-6475, or send an e-mail to letters.kfws@hearstsc.com.

Test driving the 2004 Mazda MPV

By GREG ZYLA

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Base price: \$28,230
Price as tested: \$31,645

This week, we test drive Mazda's redesigned 2004 MPV ES minivan. According to the Mazda press kit, the MPV "would be more accurately called a large sport wagon with seating for seven than a run-of-the-mill, grocery-carting minivan." We tend to agree after a week-long test drive.

Outwardly, the MPV has been nicely re-done for 2004. The standard 17-inch all-season tires on alloy wheels are especially noteworthy, giving the MPV more of a "sports" feel than a minivan cruiser.

Inside, driver and passenger comfort are enhanced thanks to new seat and trim upholstery, as well as new headrest designs for the four captain's chairs. Rear air conditioning is also standard, along with a new "spring-assist" that is added to the third-row seat for easier operation. There is adjustable lumbar support on the driver's seat, nice three-spoke steering wheel, driver- and passenger-side sun-visor extensions, a standard in-dash six-disc CD changer and front-door storage pockets with bottle holders.

Other interior notables include Mazda's exclusive Side-by-Slide seating arrangement that allows seats to not only move fore and aft, but also together to form a bench seat when necessary.

Additionally, ES models receive a standard nine-speaker, 180-watt audio system with subwoofer. Our MPV also featured the "home theater" ceiling-mounted DVD entertainment system for \$1,200 more, a welcome addition, especially on those longer trips. It plays DVD, MP3 and other audio files and



features two infrared headphones, a 7-inch-wide screen, handheld remote control and outputs for video games and camcorders.

In the safety category, the Mazda MPV scores high, with a five-star rating in the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration's New Car Assessment Program in frontal and side-impact collisions. Other safety-related features include advanced dual-stage air bags, front passenger-side centralized door lock switch and large B-pillar assist grips (ES models). All MPVs come with four-wheel anti-lock disc brakes as standard. A traction control system is available at extra cost.

Under the hood sits a reliable, albeit just adequate, Ford-designed 3.0-liter 24-valve V-6 delivering 200 horsepower. The transmission is a five-speed automatic that supplies smooth shifts in daily driving, or full-throttle redline upshifts when needed. Most competing minivans utilize four-speed automatics.

Underneath, MPV's suspension features four, not two, MacPherson struts with a large stabilizer bar in the rear to minimize roll tendency (lean) when heavily loaded. We applaud Mazda engineers for the four struts, which

give excellent cornering results while lessening road noise.

On the road, get ready for a "non-minivan" experience. MPV hugs the corners very well, accelerates adequately and has that certain "sporty" feel built in. The driver receives good feedback from the road, thanks to MPV's shorter and narrower dimensions. The disc brakes stop this mini better than any we've tested, and although the four struts make the ride a bit stiffer, we like it that way.

Important numbers include a wheelbase of 111.8 inches, cargo volume of 17.2 to 151.9 cubic feet (depending on seating arrangement), a 19.8-gallon fuel tank (regular fuel), 3,000-pound towing capacity with the four-seasons towing package for \$425 extra, 3,772-pound curb weight and EPA numbers of 18 mpg city and 25 mpg highway.

We recommend the Mazda MPV in the minivan class, especially for those who like driving excitement. We rate it a strong eight on a scale of one to 10.

Likes: Handling, excellent brakes, safety factor, looks, cargo space.

Dislikes: V-6 is underpowered when fully loaded, optional traction control should be standard.

East Ky. becomes big draw for off-roaders

HARLAN, Ky. (AP)—Out-of-state license plates tell the story of eastern Kentucky's rising popularity among off-roaders.

Pickup trucks bearing tags from as far away as Florida and Ohio roll through town, some pulling trailers laden with all-terrain vehicles, others carrying brawny rock-crawling machines, on their way to some of Kentucky's harshest terrain.

They're pouring into a region where coal mining has turned mountaintops into off-roader paradise.

"They love it here," said Preston McLain, a member of the group Harlan County Ridge Runners who guides visitors on rides along the Kentucky-Virginia line. "We've got views from these mountaintops that you don't find anywhere else."

Thousands of miles of rocky, rutted mountain roads have made eastern Kentucky a primary destination for a growing number of people who ride all-terrain vehicles or plod cross-country in four-wheel-drive trucks and SUVs with tires that look like they came off a farm tractor.

Andy Jones, director of strategic development in Harlan County, wants to capitalize on the phenomenon to

rejuvenate a local economy as rocky as any of the backwoods trails.

While some other communities have frowned on off-roaders, Harlan County welcomes them. Jones said people in Harlan want to draw more riders to spend money in hotels, restaurants and shops.

"People are serious about it," he said. "I see tremendous potential. This is part of the strategy we have to improve the economy of our county."

Harlan County leaders have leased 7,000 acres of abandoned coal mine land, complete with an assortment of rugged trails and roads, and are working on adding about 30,000 additional acres.

That land is open to the monstrous off-road vehicles, ATVs, even dirt bikes, and has already begun to pay off, said Ronnie Shoope, a member of the group Kentucky Mountain Crawlers.

"I'd like to see the entire state get into this," Shoope said. "We have all this land sitting here perfect for this. It's prime for tourism."

Shoope said liability issues can be a problem for off-roaders on private land. Harlan County solved the problem by leasing the land and accepting the liability. The county leaders hope to be

able to apply revenues from coal-severance taxes to the cost of insurance.

"This probably is the single best tourism plan," Shoope said. "It's not only going to give local people something to do, but it will create a market for people to come from out of town."

Some of the eastern Kentucky back roads, originally built for coal trucks, wind through the mountains for 100 miles or more, linked through a network of abandoned surface mines. That's enough road to ride for an entire weekend without seeing the same place twice.

Kentucky Tourism Commissioner Randy Fiveash said he wants to promote all aspects of outdoor recreation, including motor sports, while at the same time protecting the environment.

"Kentucky is so fortunate to have the incredible beauty, woodlands and the hills, that are just incredible places that people want to see and be a part of," he said.

Jones believes that the abandoned coal mines that have left many of eastern Kentucky's mountaintops treeless could hold the key to turn the region into a center for off-road recreation. People want to see views from atop the Appalachians, he said.

Life & Style

Networks ready for big election night

By DAVID BAUDER
AP TELEVISION WRITER

Before 2000, the focus of television Election Night coverage was pretty simple: Count votes as fast as you can and explain why people voted the way they did.

Two trends in this year's plans show the residual impact of hanging chads and blown calls. Networks are intent on following potential voter irregularities and laying bare their own decision-making processes as results flood in.

ABC, CBS, NBC, Fox, PBS, CNN, Fox News Channel and MSNBC will all devote prime time to election results Tuesday night. Smaller networks with specialized audiences, like BET and MTV, have unprecedented coverage because of the intense interest in the presidential race.

Chip Reid will be stationed at the "Making Your Vote Count" desk at NBC News. ABC's Jake Tapper will deliver "Ballot Watch" reports. Mika Brzezinski at CBS, Major Garrett at Fox News Channel and Jeffrey Toobin

at CNN all have the same assignments: Comb the country for reports of potential fraud or disenfranchised voters.

"We all got a civics lesson in 2000 so what we feel we need is some good intelligence with secretaries of state in every battleground state," said Paul Mason, ABC News senior vice president.

ABC's planning the days before the election resembles The Weather Channel's right before a hurricane makes landfall: Keep checking for where news is likely to strike before putting correspondents on airplanes.

NBC is helping to finance a national voter help line. Civic responsibility is one motive; so is the hope it might tip the network off to trouble spots before its rivals.

"After the election, the story will be about how broken the election system is," NBC's Tom Brokaw said.

Networks also want to rebuild public confidence in their performance after the 2000 disaster. You'll recall them declaring Al Gore the winner in Florida, rescinding it, giving Florida and the presidency to George Bush, then hav-



Joe Lenski, co-founder of Edison Media Research, is interviewed at the offices of the National Election Pool in Somerville, N.J., Friday, Oct. 29, 2004. Numbers from presidential election exit polls around the country will be gathered here Tuesday, Nov. 2, 2004, for use by news organizations in projecting winners in the election.

ing to wait several weeks before a court fight settled the outcome.

ABC, CBS, NBC, CNN, Fox News Channel and The Associated Press collaborated to construct a new exit polling system from scratch. The AP will also be the sole source for a nationwide vote tabulation.

After the primary season and several test runs, the participants expressed cautious optimism—certainly more optimism than they did in 2002—that things will work on Election Night.

"I think everyone rightfully learned a lot of lessons four years ago," said David Bohman, CNN's Washington bureau chief. "You also learned that you don't have 100 percent confidence in anything."

Networks all promise caution in declaring winners state by state, adopting "we'd rather be right than first" as a new mantra. They also expect to more thoroughly explain why they're calling or hedging on a state's results.

On CBS, for example, Brzezinski be stationed at her network's decision desk and explain to viewers what her colleagues are doing.

RECORD RACK

Album scale: one star (poor) to four (excellent).

Duran Duran

"Astronaut" (Epic)

□□

When it comes to resuscitated '80s pop titans, Duran Duran is doing a lot better than Van Halen. Hey, at least this monster of blissfully silly new-wave rock got its original lineup back together—first for a successful 25th anniversary tour and now for its first album in 21 years—with singer Simon LeBon, guitarist Andy Taylor, keyboardist Nick Rhodes, bassist John Taylor and drummer Roger Taylor.

The quintet still packs that fey lyrical bent, pumping bass line and slick synth sound, but it maybe should have taken a cue from the Pixies who, despite a celebrated reunion tour, aren't hur-



rying off to make another album.

"Astronaut" gets back to the group's core blend of new wave, pop-rock and blue-eyed soul, but it isn't likely to supplant earlier fan favorites. At a

time when newer acts, from fringe to mainstream, are moving the band's old ideas forward, Duran Duran needs to do more than just mix in the blips and bleeps of contemporary dance music to prove it has something to contribute.

Still, there's a corny sweetness to the fluffy can-do anthem "(Reach Up for the) Sunrise," the campy-sexy "Bedroom Toys" and the title track's Bowie-esque sci-fi bop. The whooshing, mid-tempo "What Happens Tomorrow" even offers a timely reminder that optimism is powerful ... whether in love or in these uncertain days. (*Natalie Nichols/Los Angeles Times*)

Celine Dion

"Miracle: A Celebration of New Life" (Epic)

□□

Dion keeps her familiar histrionics in check in this album, which is the audio portion of a multimedia

production that includes a separate book of photos by Anne Geddes and a DVD chronicling the making of the project. That's all to the good, given the album's theme, which is underscored by Madonna-and-infant-style liner photos of Dion holding babies posed in Geddes' trademark flower settings.

Singing with less Vegas intensity and a touching intimacy, Dion produces some of her more engaging performances, especially in "Miracle," Ewan MacColl's folk classic "The First Time Ever I Saw Your Face" and John Lennon's moving "Beautiful Boy."

Even so, the combination of idealized music and photos at times verges toward sugar-high preciousity. Anyone with the temerity to criticize an album in which Dion (who is a parent) celebrates the joys of mother and child runs the risk of being lumped with the Grinch.

Still, amid all the packaged sweetness and light of "Miracle," it would have been nice to have included—even humorously—a song or two honoring the 3 a.m. feedings, colic and diaper changes that are essential elements in the real-world miracle of motherhood. (*Don Heckman/Los Angeles Times*)

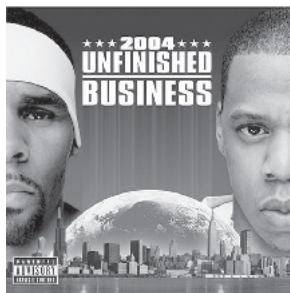
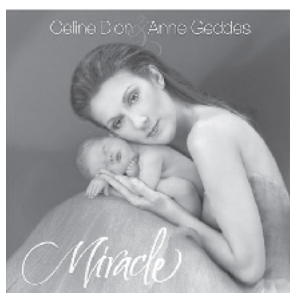
R. Kelly and Jay-Z
"Unfinished Business" (Jive/Roc Land/Roc-A-Fella/Def Jam)
□□

R. Kelly and Jay-Z

"Unfinished Business" (Jive/Roc Land/Roc-A-Fella/Def Jam)

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It takes a special kind of nerve to celebrate a collection of outtakes—er, previously unreleased songs—from one of the most infamous commercial duds of recent years. But that's what Jay and R. do in the pump-up-the-party opening track here, imagining the



ladies lining up and reciting a good part of their concert tour itinerary.

Given that the album's 2002 predecessor, "Best of Both Worlds," sold fewer than a million copies after being touted as a can't-miss blockbuster, all this excitement rings a little hollow. Besides failing to combine the substantial sales power of its stars into the expected mega-draw, that album somehow managed to neutralize them artistically. And this collection of benchwarmers doesn't do much to improve the chemistry.

Jay-Z occasionally flashes the authoritative rap that's put him at the top of the field, but Kelly doesn't offer anything close to the warmth and spirit of the R&B and gospel of his recent double album, "Happy People." The tracks, produced mainly by Tone of the Track Masters, bring some dynamism to the record, but it's hard to get worked up by the tired lotharios-on-the-prowl scenarios: "Somebody's girl is in my mansion ... Somebody's girl is in my hot tub."

Feel their pain. (*Richard Cromelin/Los Angeles Times*)

Various artists

"Norah Jones: Artist's Choice" (Hear Music)

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One of the intriguing things about Jones is that the exquisite young vocalist never took a singing lesson. So how did she acquire such taste and restraint in her handling of songs?

She did it by listening to other singers with taste, recognizing the value of understatement and subtlety. That realization runs all through the latest installment in the excellent "Artist's Choice" series, which asks quality artists to select a dozen or so recordings that have touched or influenced them.

The series works well because there is no need for commercial compromise. In picking the selections, the artists aren't limited to music from a single record company or genre.

Jones' list is wonderfully eclectic, touching on rock, country, R&B, pop and jazz. The disc includes tracks by such artists as Ray Charles ("What Would I Do Without You"), the Band ("The Night They Drove Old Dixie Down"), Aretha Franklin ("Today I Sing the Blues"), Hank Williams ("Lovesick Blues") and Billie Holiday

("What a Little Moonlight Can Do").

In the liner notes, Jones tells how she first came across many of these records in her mother's collection and recalls marveling at the songs or the singers' voices. Jones' CD is due Nov. 9. (*Robert Hilburn/Los Angeles Times*)

Jimmy Eat World

"Futures" (Interscope)

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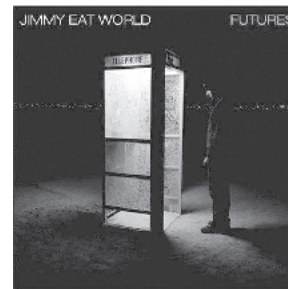
The cover of the Arizona band's latest shows a young man standing perplexedly outside a grimy phone booth. A reluctant Clark Kent? Someone too emotionally paralyzed to reach out and touch? Or just a kid from the cellphone age who can't figure out what this structure is all about?

It might be all three, representing music that addresses an age in need of heroics but in which taking even a first step seems daunting, a time when everyone is wired but meaningful communication is hard to come by.

The message is simple: Make that step. Make that call. Do something! Whether it's a big-picture matter (the title song alludes to the presidential election) or more personal ("You're just across the street/ looks a mile to my feet," sings Jim Adkins in "Kill"), this is all about getting over yourself and rising above petty complaints.

That stance has always set Jimmy Eat World apart from the whining emo bands with which it's often inaccurately associated. "Bleed American," the band's breakthrough album, made that clear in 2001. Emboldened by that set's success, the band worked with producer Gil Norton to expand its range on this follow-up. At times there's an almost U2-like expansiveness in lushly atmospheric settings ("Night Drive"), while "Pain" and the closing "23" have a classic power-ballad feel, without pandering to mainstream tastes.

In the grand scheme these may seem like small steps. But just taking steps at all can be a big deal these days. (*Steve Hochman/Los Angeles Times*)



‘The Grudge’ scares up \$22M to stay No. 1

By DAVID GERMAIN
AP MOVIE WRITER

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Halloween spirit possessed moviegoers as Sarah Michelle Gellar’s fright flick “The Grudge” remained the top draw for the second straight weekend with \$22.4 million. The film biography “Ray,” which has drawn Academy Awards buzz for Jamie Foxx as Ray Charles in the title role, debuted in second place with \$20.1 million, according to studio estimates Sunday.

The horror tale “Saw,” about a serial killer who puts victims through grisly morality trials, opened at No. 3 with \$17.4 million. The cast includes Cary Elwes and Danny Glover.

Estimated ticket sales for Friday through Sunday at North American theaters, according to Exhibitor Relations Co. Inc. Final figures will be released Monday.

1. **“The Grudge,”** \$22.4 million.
2. **“Ray,”** \$20.1 million.
3. **“Saw,”** \$17.4 million.
4. **“Shark Tale,”** \$8 million.
5. **“Shall We Dance?”** \$6.3 million.
6. **“Friday Night Lights,”** \$4.1 million.
7. **“Ladder 49,”** \$3.3 million.
8. **“Team America: World Police,”** \$3.1 million.
9. **“Surviving Christmas,”** \$2.6 million.
10. **“Taxi,”** \$2.15 million.

In narrower release, Nicole Kidman’s “Birth” had a so-so debut, coming in at No. 11 with \$1.7 million in 550 cinemas to average \$3,091 a theater. Kidman plays a widow about to

remarry when she encounters a 10-year-old boy claiming to be the reincarnation of her dead husband.

By comparison, “Ray” debuted in 2,006 theaters with a healthy \$10,020 average, while “Saw” averaged \$7,516 in 2,315 cinemas.

“The Grudge,” starring Gellar as an American student tormented by a hateful spirit lurking in a Tokyo house, lifted its 10-day domestic gross to \$71.3 million. A remake of a Japanese horror hit, “The Grudge” cost just \$10 million to produce.

Scary movies tend to plummet in their second weekend because hardcore horror fans catch them in the first few days. Halloween weekend helped

shore up “The Grudge,” whose receipts fell just 43 percent, a relatively strong hold from its \$39.1 million debut.

“The Grudge” and “Saw” drew mostly younger viewers looking for Halloween scares. The audience for “Ray” was older, with three-fourths of viewers age 30 and over.

Films that play to older crowds tend to stick around longer at theaters, and distributor Universal Studios is counting on the movie’s Oscar prospects to extend its appeal through awards season.

Interest in Charles has surged since his death last June and Foxx has received enormous acclaim for his uncanny re-creation of the blind singer’s man-

nerisms and spirit.

“This is the most talked about performance of the year,” said Paul Dergarabedian, president of box-office tracker Exhibitor Relations. “His performance even transcends the movie itself.”

Director Taylor Hackford, who had Charles’ full support on “Ray,” struggled for 15 years to get the movie made. Financed independently, the finished film was shopped around futilely among Hollywood studios until it found a home at Universal.

“Nobody wanted this movie, so as a result we are celebrating like you can’t even believe,” said Nikki Rocco, head of distribution for Universal. “We expect a long life for this movie.”

‘SNL’ to spoof campaigns past and present

By FRAZIER MOORE
AP TELEVISION WRITER

Just to get you fired up for Election Day, “Saturday Night Live” will be making fun of campaigns past. Airing 10 p.m. EST Monday on NBC, “Saturday Night Live Presidential Bash” will feature candidates’ debates from three decades—as spoofed by “SNL.”

These include the Bush-Gore debate of 2000 pitting Will Ferrell (“strategy”) against Darrell Hammond (“lockbox”); the 1992 Clinton-Bush-Perot debates with Phil Hartman as Bill Clinton and Dana Carvey in the other two roles; the 1988 Bush-Dukakis debates featuring Carvey and Jon Lovitz (“I can’t believe I’m losing to this guy”), as well as the show’s the Ford-Carter debate between Chevy Chase (“It was my understanding that there would be no math”) and Dan Aykroyd.

The program will also include

new material starring Hammond (Vice President Cheney), Seth Meyers (John Kerry) and Will Forte (President Bush).

Guaranteed: It won’t be hard work watching this show, and afterward there will be no global test.

Other shows to look out for:

- Daytime’s most popular soap celebrates a milestone Monday, when “The Young and the Restless” airs its 8,000th episode with the long-awaited wedding of Bobby Marsino and Brittany Hodges. (But will Brittany’s disapproving parents show up for the ceremony?) Remarkably still young and restless, the show premiered March 26, 1973, in its fictional setting of midwestern metropolis Genoa City, and has been the No. 1 daytime drama for nearly 16 years. “The Young and the Restless” airs weekdays on CBS at 12:30 p.m. EST (check local listings).
- Michelle Brown walked

into an office one afternoon, filled out a form and submitted it to the receptionist—who then took this information and remade herself into Michelle Brown. Then she turned the real Michelle’s world upside down. This Lifetime movie, “Identity Theft: The Michelle Brown Story,” tells a true and cautionary tale of what can happen when details about your life fall into the wrong hands. Starring Kimberly Williams-Paisley (“According to Jim”) and Annabella Sciorra (“The Sopranos”) it airs Monday at 9 p.m.

□ Once you’ve voted on Tuesday, if you don’t feel like sticking with the play-by-play news coverage, Trio is offering three politically themed documentaries while you wait for the ballots to be counted:

At 8 p.m., “Gay Republicans” examines the struggles and contradictions afflicting the group known as Log Cabin Republicans. At odds with the Christian

right and President Bush’s support for a constitutional amendment to ban gay marriages, but favoring their party’s stance on such issues as the economy and national defense, how have gay Republicans reconciled their inner conflict during Campaign ‘04?

At 9 p.m., “How’s Your News?: On the Campaign Trail” shadows six mentally and physically challenged reporters as they go about their business at the political conventions. They include Susan Harrington, a mildly retarded, legally blind woman, and Bobby Bird, a man with Down’s syndrome—and their disadvantages don’t hold them back.

And at 10 p.m., “Parking Lot: The Political Conventions” posts its cameras outside the Democratic, Republican and Libertarian national conventions to capture the spirit of the delegates, party members, protesters and even street vendors.

R. Kelly’s camp considers legal action

NEW YORK (AP)—Lawyers for singer R. Kelly were filing a criminal complaint against a member of rapper Jay-Z’s entourage and considering other legal action after the platinum-selling stars’ joint tour came to an abrupt end.

The “I Believe I Can Fly” singer was booted from remaining shows at Madison Square Garden by the promoter Saturday, a day after a member of Jay-Z’s entourage allegedly blasted Kelly with pepper spray, said his publicist, Allan Mayer. The promoter announced that Jay-Z, with special guests, would do the shows alone.

Kelly’s lawyers were filing a complaint against the entourage member and considering action over the decision to remove Kelly from the tour, Mayer said.

“The fans deserve better than this,” Kelly said in a statement.



AP

R. Kelly performs during a concert at Nassau Coliseum in Uniondale, N.Y., Thursday, Oct. 28, 2004.

“I’d like the show to go on. It’s really disappointing that Jay-Z and the promoter don’t.”

Jay-Z and R. Kelly were in the midst of a 40-city “Best of Both Worlds” tour, which has been beset by canceled shows and reports that the feuding performers weren’t even on speaking terms.

The tour, which had been scheduled to run through Nov. 28, has been canceled, said promoter Jeff Sharp of Atlanta Worldwide Touring. Jay-Z’s publicist was unsure if the rapper would try and fill the remaining dates as a solo act.

The pepper-spray incident happened about an hour into Friday night’s show, when Kelly walked on stage and said he saw two people in the audience waving guns, Mayer said. Kelly abruptly stopped his set around 9:30 p.m. while arena security employees searched for weapons.

wallace

Pets' miraculous comebacks launch many a family legend

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN

DEAR ABBY: Thank you for printing the letter about the reincarnated rabbit, "Blossom." It has been years since I had such a good laugh. I had heard the tale before and knew it was a joke. I'm glad you were not taken in.

It reminded me of a true incident that happened in our household many years ago. My brother, Jack, had two pet green anole lizards. One day I came home from school before he did and found my cat, Yoda, in the lizard tank. I was horrified to find only one lizard.

I begged my mom to lend me the car and off to the pet store I went. When Jack came home, he found two green lizards, and one with a half-chewed-off tail in the tank. (I guess it been hiding under the rock.) Jack was old enough to know how lizards have babies, so he was confused as to how the third lizard arrived. Caught in the act of replacement, I had to 'fess up. Jack was furious at Yoda, but happy to have an additional pet lizard.

We still laugh about the incident.

KIM IN MASSACHUSETTS

DEAR KIM: I looked up the word "anole" and my Webster's dictionary defined it as "any of a genus of arboreal American lizards (as the American chameleon) that have ... the ability to change color." It reminded me of a story I heard years ago (probably apocryphal) about a woman whose pet chameleon died after she placed it on a piece of cloth that was plaid.

The letter about "Blossom" brought back memories from another reader, too. Read on:

DEAR ABBY: While the letter about Blossom was funny, I have a similar incident that is true. When I was 15, I adopted a cat from the S.P.C.A. I named him Elvis, and he instantly became part of the family. On Aug. 16, 2002 (the 25th anniversary of the death of the real king), my Elvis disappeared. He had missed his supper, which was unusual, so a friend and I went looking for him. We didn't find him, but after my friend left to go home, he called and said he had seen a cat up the street that looked like Elvis, dead in the road.

My dad and I took the truck, and sure enough, there lay a gray-and-white striped tabby cat. After three hours of mourning and crying in the driveway, we buried him with some of his favorite toys.

The next morning I woke up with my eyes still swollen from crying and looked out the back door. There lay Elvis sunning himself. After a moment of thoughts flashing through my head of Elvis unburying himself, I ran outside to make sure it was my cat. It was.

A few months later, while attending a neighborhood watch meeting, a neighbor mentioned that her cat had gone missing. He, too, was a gray striped tabby—identical to my Elvis.

I think sometimes God lets us know how it would feel to be without something we love without actually taking it away, to teach us to be more grateful.

THE KING LIVES ON, MIDLAND, TEXAS

DEAR K.L.O.: Perhaps. Thank you for the timely reminder that we should count our blessings.

CONFIDENTIAL TO KANSAS CITY KITTY: Dry your tears and count your blessings. Better to have loved and lost than to have spent your entire life hitched to a tomcat who's always on the prowl.

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

For everything you need to know about wedding planning, order "How to Have a Lovely Wedding." Send a business-size, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for \$5 (U.S. funds only) to: Dear Abby, Wedding Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Postage is included.)



Dear Abby

Bullock amuses, delights home-state crowd

CHARLOTTESVILLE, Va. (AP)—Actress Sandra Bullock told a home-state crowd that she feels it is her purpose to "make you laugh a little," and inadvertently did just that when she came on stage to accept an award.

Bullock headed in the wrong direction, then melodramatically overcorrected with an "Oops!" expression that delighted the audience, which gave her a standing ovation.

The Virginia Film Award from the University of Virginia's Culbreth Theatre recognizes people for significant contributions to the film industry and Virginia.

Bullock, an Arlington native, became a star after the 1994 film "Speed." She showed a clip of the upcoming film "Miss Congeniality 2," a sequel to the 2000 film "Miss Congeniality."

Bullock said she would "absolutely" consider making a film in her home state.

"It's nice to step off the plane and feel the humidity," she said, adding with a smile, "Virginia is for lovers' ... I still have that T-shirt since, like, puberty."

Actress Sandra Bullock arrives at the Kodak Theatre for the 76th annual Academy Awards in a Los Angeles, file photo from Feb. 29, 2004.

AP



ENTERTAINMENT TIDBITS

'American Idol' runner-up sings anthem

HAMPTON, Ga. (AP)—Diana DeGarmo, the "American Idol" runner-up, sang the national anthem before the Busch race at Atlanta Motor Speedway on Saturday.

While it was her first trip to the track south of Atlanta, it wasn't her first NASCAR race.

"The first race I ever went to was the Brickyard 400 when I was 10 or 11," the 17-year-old singer said. "That was a blast. I got a hat and bear, the whole thing."

DeGarmo lives in Snellville, a suburb east of Atlanta. Her first album, "Blue Skies," is scheduled to be released Dec. 7.

Late singer Clooney's home may be museum

AUGUSTA, Ky. (AP)—Late singer and actress Rosemary Clooney's old Kentucky home could soon be turned into a museum displaying memorabilia from her singing career under a plan proposed by her one-time neighbor, former Miss America Heather French Henry.

Henry and her husband, former Kentucky Lt. Gov. Steve Henry, said they plan to buy the home within the next two weeks, renovate it for use as a public museum and also live in it part-time with their two children.

Heather French Henry grew up just three blocks away before moving to Maysville and said Clooney served as a mentor to her when she was Miss America 2000.

"Augusta and Maysville were the only places where we could get away and breathe," Henry said. "I would like my children to get what I got from Augusta."

The two-story brick home was built in 1835 along the Ohio River. Clooney bought it in 1980 and lived there when she wasn't on the road performing or at her main residence in Beverly Hills, Calif.

Clooney, a Maysville native and the aunt of actor George Clooney, had No. 1 hits in the 50s including "Come On-a My House" and enjoyed a

resurgence of popularity late in life that resulted in four nominations for the Grammy award.

She was 74 when she died of lung cancer in 2002.

Cash's first wife wants sentimental bench

SAN ANTONIO (AP)—The first wife of the late singer Johnny Cash says she would like to own the San Antonio River Walk bench that she and Cash carved their names on in 1951—but city officials say that's unlikely.

Vivian Distin told the San Antonio Express-News she rediscovered the bench two weeks ago during a visit to San Antonio and asked city officials if she could have it if she paid to replace it. The city, realizing the bench's historic value, quickly locked it away in a storage room out of fear that someone would steal or damage it, the paper reported Friday.

Malcolm Matthews, director of the city's parks and recreation department, said the bench probably could not be relinquished.

Cash was an 18-year-old cadet at Brooks Air Force Base and Distin was his 17-year-old girlfriend when they carved "Johnny loves Vivian" on the cedar bench. Shortly afterward, the military sent Cash to Germany. Over the next three years, Cash frequently referred to the bench in love letters to Distin.

"He would ask if I was visiting the bench and (say) how often he thought about that walk and us carving our names," Distin said. "It was a big part of our courtship."

Cash pledged to remain faithful to Distin in his song "I Walk the Line."

Distin, who is working on a book about her life with the man in black, is the mother of Cash's four daughters, including singer Rosanne Cash. Cash was divorced from Distin when he married country star June Carter.

Cash, who died in September 2003, captured the hardscrabble life of those on the margins in songs such as "Folsom Prison Blues" and "One Piece at a Time."

Ford: Writing book a cathartic experience

DALLAS (AP)—Former Gucci designer Tom Ford's new book is like his description of Texas fashion: big and bold. "There's a boldness to Texans that carries over into fashion, and I like that," said Ford, who stepped down in the spring as creative director for the Italian luxury fashion house after 10 years.

The native Texan was in Dallas on Thursday night for a party to celebrate his new book, "Tom Ford," which is a look back at his designs for Gucci and Yves Saint Laurent.

The 43-year-old said that doing the book was cathartic after leaving Gucci, where he spent 14 years.

"It seemed like a perfect time to relive everything, revisit it, box up all the things that meant something to me in a beautiful book and slipcover and call it a chapter of my life and move on," Ford said.

Tom Wolfe reflects on baseball career

NEW YORK (AP)—Writer Tom Wolfe says he would have happily put off writing to pursue a major league baseball career, but he was cut by the New York Giants in 1952 after just two days in the organization. Still, the 73-year-old author of such novels as "The Electric Kool-Aid Acid Test" and "The Right Stuff" tells Time magazine for its Nov. 8 edition that he made a good showing during a try-out with the team, which later moved to San Francisco.

In three innings, Wolfe says he left three men on base with no runs scored. He had a good screwball and a nice sinker—but his fastball was weak.

"If somebody had offered me a Class D professional contract, I would have gladly put off writing for a couple of decades," he said.

Wolfe, known for his trademark white suits, has a new novel out, "I Am Charlotte Simmons," about youthful hedonism on a college campus.

Wolfe said he went to campuses including Stanford, the University of North Carolina in Chapel Hill and the University of Florida in Gainesville and attended fraternity parties as part of his research.



Ford

Wolfe

Pastimes





TRIBUNE SPORTS SCORES

MLB STANDINGS																								
AMERICAN LEAGUE																								
East Division																								
	W	L	Pct.	GB																				
New York	90	53	.629	-																				
Boston	86	56	.606	31/2																				
Baltimore	65	76	.461	24																				
Tampa Bay	61	80	.433	28																				
Toronto	59	84	.413	31																				
Central Division																								
Minnesota	82	60	.577	-																				
Chicago	72	70	.507	10																				
Cleveland	70	73	.490	121/2																				
Detroit	64	77	.454	171/2																				
Kansas City	51	91	.359	31																				
West Division																								
Oakland	83	59	.585	-																				
Anaheim	81	61	.570	2																				
Texas	78	64	.549	5																				
Seattle	53	89	.373	30																				
Yesterday's Games																								
Minnesota 8, Detroit 5																								
N.Y. Yankees 9, Baltimore 7																								
Texas 7, Toronto 6																								
Tampa Bay 7, Kansas City 2																								
Seattle 2, Boston 0																								
Anaheim 11, Chicago White Sox 0																								
Oakland 1, Cleveland 0																								
NATIONAL LEAGUE																								
East Division																								
Atlanta	84	58	.592	-																				
Florida	74	65	.532	81/2																				
Philadelphia	74	69	.517	101/2																				
New York	61	81	.430	23																				
Montreal	59	83	.415	25																				
Central Division																								
St. Louis	94	48	.662	-																				
Chicago	76	64	.543	17																				
Houston	78	66	.542	17																				
Pittsburgh	66	77	.462	281/2																				
Cincinnati	65	77	.458	29																				
Milwaukee	62	79	.440	311/2																				
West Division																								
Los Angeles	83	59	.585	-																				
San Francisco	79	65	.549	5																				
San Diego	76	67	.531	71/2																				
Colorado	62	80	.437	21																				
Arizona	43	100	.301	401/2																				
Yesterday's Games																								
Atlanta 9, Montreal 8, 12 innings																								
Philadelphia 4, N.Y. Mets 2																								
Milwaukee 11, Cincinnati 0																								
Florida 11, Chicago Cubs 1																								
San Diego 15, Colorado 2																								
St. Louis 7, Los Angeles 6																								
San Francisco 5, Arizona 2																								
Houston 5, Pittsburgh 4, 10 innings																								
NFL STANDINGS																								
AFC East					W	L	T	Pct.																
N.Y. Jets					1	0	0	1.000																
New England					1	0	0	1.000																
Buffalo					0	1	0	.000																
Miami					0	1	0	.000																
North																								
Cleveland					1	0	0	1.000																
Pittsburgh					1	0	0	1.000																
Baltimore					0	1	0	.000																
Cincinnati					0	1	0	.000																
South																								
Jacksonville					1	0	0	1.000																
Tennessee					1	0	0	1.000																
Houston					0	1	0	.000																
Indianapolis					0	1	0	.000																
West																								
Denver					1	0	0	1.000																
San Diego					1	0	0	1.000																
Kansas City					0	1	0	.000																
Oakland					0	1	0	.000																
NFC East																								
Philadelphia					1	0	0	1.000																
Washington					1	0	0	1.000																
Dallas					0	1	0	.000																
N.Y. Giants					0	1	0	.000																
South																								
Atlanta					1	0	0	1.000																
Carolina					0	0	0	.000																
New Orleans					0	1	0	.000																
Tampa Bay					0	1	0	.000																
West																								
Seattle					1	0	0	1.000																
St. Louis					1	0	0	1.000																
Arizona					0	1	0	.000																
San Francisco					0	1	0	.000																
Yesterday's Games																								
Detroit 20, Chicago 16																								
N.Y. Jets 31, Cincinnati 24																								
Pittsburgh 24, Oakland 21																								
San Diego 27, Houston 20																								
St. Louis 17, Arizona 10																								
Washington 16, Tampa Bay 10																								
Seattle 21, New Orleans 7																								
Jacksonville 13, Buffalo 10																								
Cleveland 20, Baltimore 3																								
Atlanta 21, San Francisco 19																								
Minnesota 35, Dallas 17																								
Philadelphia 31, N.Y. Giants 17																								
Denver 34, Kansas City 24																								
BELL CANADIAN OPEN SCORES																								
Final Round																								
(x-Won on third playoff hole)																								
x-Vijay Singh					68-66-72-69	275																		
Mike Weir					68-65-70-72	275																		
Joe Ogilvie					70-69-69-69	277																		
Justin Rose					70-70-75-63	278																		
Tom Lehman					74-70-70-64	278																		
Hunter Mahan					72-69-69-68	278																		
Stewart Cink					72-68-69-69	278																		
Robert Dammron					72-71-70-66	279																		
Mark Hensby					70-69-70-71	280																		
Jesper Parnevik					69-66-71-74	280																		
Billy Andrade					67-75-71-68	281																		
David Sutherland					69-72-68-72	281																		
D.J. Brigman					67-74-67-73	281																		
Pat Perez					68-68-78-68	282																		
Dean Banshaw					71-65-75-71	282																		
Dean Wilson					71-70-69-72	282																		
Steve Lowery					70-69-70-73	282																		
Cliff Kresge					69-70-67-76	282																		
Jose Coceres					72-70-74-67	283																		
Arjun Atwal					71-67-75-70	283																		
Kenny Perry					71-67-74-71	283																		
Glen Day					70-69-70-74	283																		
Bill Haas					71-71-67-74	283																		
Casey Wittenberg					73-72-71-68	284																		
Chris DiMarco					69-71-73-71	284																		
Craig Perks					70-72-75-68	285																		
Bob Tway					74-71-70-70	285																		
Roland Thatcher					72-72-71-70	285																		
Corey Pavin					73-70-72-70	285																		
Bill Glasson					72-70-73-70	285																		
Joey Sindelar					66-73-74-72	285																		
Brett Quigley					69-71-73-72	285																		
Chad Campbell					73-68-72-72	285																		
David Peoples					69-70-73-73	285																		
Craig Barlow					67-69-75-74	285																		
Dudley Hart					72-73-73-68	286																		
David Edwards					72-69-74-71	286																		
Richard S. Johnson					73-70-71-72	286																		
Roger Tambellini					71-71-69-75	286																		
David Frost					73-71-71-72	287																		
Jason Bohn					73-70-72-72	287																		
Davis Love III					72-73-68-74	287																		
Greg Chalmers					71-72-70-74	287																		
Tommy Tolles					72-70-78-68	288																		
Esteban Toledo					76-68-72-72	288																		
Jonathan Byrd					72-70-69-77	288																		
Jim Rutledge					74-71-75-69	289																		
Mark Brooks					69-73-76-71	289																		
Fred Funk					74-70-72-73	289																		
Mark Wilson					74-70-71-74	289																		
Tim Petrovic					72-70-73-74	289																		
Steve Flesch					73-71-75-71	290																		
David Duval					71-72-76-71	290																		
Omar Uresti					74-70-74-72	290																		
Todd Fischer					71-71-75-73	290																		
Tag Ridings					68-76-72-74	290																		
Phil Mickelson					75-69-79-68	291																		
Jim McGovern					71-72-76-72	291																		
Billy Mayfair					70-74-72-75	291																		
Neal Lancaster					71-70-75-75	291																		
Garrett Willis					71-74-75-72	292																		
Tom Carter					72-71-76-73	292																		
Dennis Paulson					69-72-75-76	292																		
Brian Kortan					71-74-70-77	292																		
Paul Azinger					72-68-74-78	292																		
Aaron Barber					72-73-75-73	293																		
Jim Carter					72-69-78-74	293																		
Danny Briggs					76-73-77-74	293																		
Justin Leonard					76-66-77-74	293																		
Dicky Pride					72-72-77-73	294																		
Grant Waite					75-70-73-76	294																		
Larry Mize					76-68-74-76	294																		
David Morland IV					70-73-73-78	294																		
Dirk Ayers					72-71-79-73	295																		
Kevin Sutherland					74-71-75-75	295																		
John Rollins					74-71-74-76	295																		
Andre Stolz					71-74-77-74	296																		
Chris Couch					71-71-79-83	304																		
SPORTS TRANSACTIONS																								
MLB																								
SEATTLE MARINERS-Called up LHP Randy Williams from Tacoma of the PCL.																								
NEW YORK METS-Placed RHP Matt Ginter on the 60-day DL. Recalled OF Victor Diaz from Norfolk of the IL.																								
PHILADELPHIA PHILLIES-Activated RHP Kevin Millwood from the 15-day DL.																								
NFL																								
ATLANTA FALCONS-Waived S Etric Pruitt. Signed LB Terrence Melton from the practice squad.																								
BUFFALO BILLS-Reached an injury settlement with QB Travis Brown.																								
GREEN BAY PACKERS-Signed CB Al Harris to a five-year contract extension. Released TE Steve Bush.																								
INDIANAPOLIS COLTS-Activated S Bob Sanders. Waived FB Cary Davis. Signed DT Jason Stewart to the practice squad.																								
MIAMI DOLPHINS-Released RB Fred Russell from the practice squad. Signed RB Leonard Henry to the practice squad.																								
MINNESOTA VIKINGS-Signed OT Mike Rosenthal to a six-year contract extension.																								
OAKLAND RAIDERS-Activated CB Charles Woodson. Traded DT Chris Cooper to Dallas for future considerations.																								
SAN FRANCISCO 49ERS-Waived TE Kevin Ware. Signed FB Matt Stanley from the practice squad.																								
SEATTLE SEAHAWKS-Activated OT Walter Jones. Signed WR Jerheme Urban to the practice squad. Waived G Jerry Wunsch.																								
By The Associated Press																								



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Sports

25

